

MASTER OF
KUNG FUTM

MARVEL[®] COMICS GROUP

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02449

THE HANDS OF SHANG-CHI, MASTER OF KUNG FUTM

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**TWIN
SWORDS,
SWIFT
DEATH!**

ERNIE
CHAN
1977



**A SPECIAL REPEAT
PERFORMANCE OF ONE
OF SHANG-CHI'S EARLIEST,
MOST EXCITING SAGAS!**

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

MASTER OF KUNG FU!™

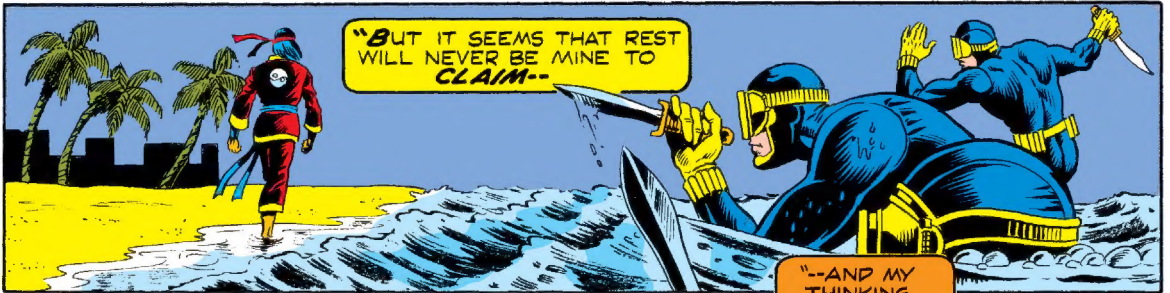
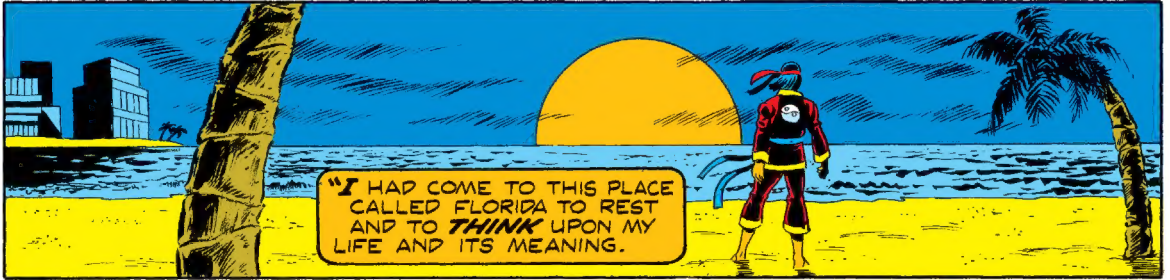
GERRY CONWAY
SPEECH

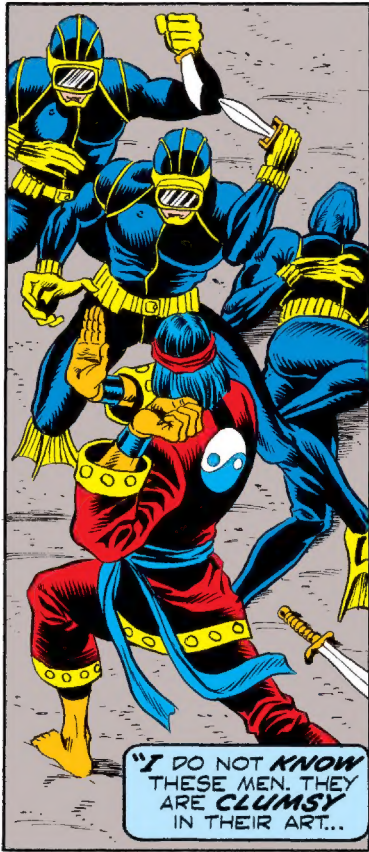
PAUL GULACY
VISION

AL MILGROM
WEIGHT

DAVE HUNT
LETTERS
G. ROUSSOS
COLORS

ROY THOMAS
DIRECTION

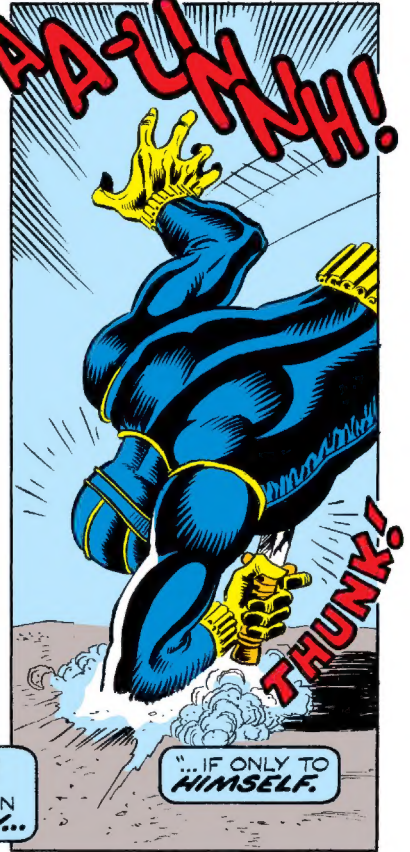




"I DO NOT *KNOW* THESE MEN. THEY ARE *CLUMSY* IN THEIR ART...



"...BUT EVEN A CLUMSY ASSASSIN CAN BE *DEADLY*...



"...IF ONLY TO *HIMSELF*."



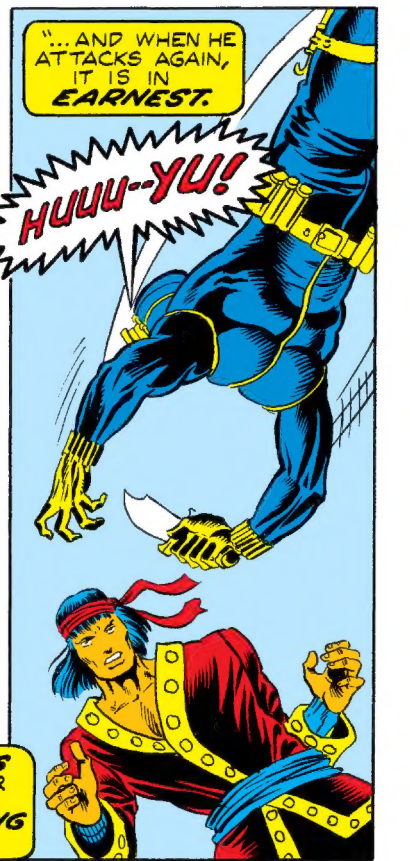
"I TURN NOW TO FACE MY *REMAINING* ASSAILANT. I SENSE THAT *HE* IS THE MOST DANGEROUS OF THE THREE..."

"...FOR IT IS HE WHO HAS *WAITED* WHILE THE OTHERS *ATTACKED*..."

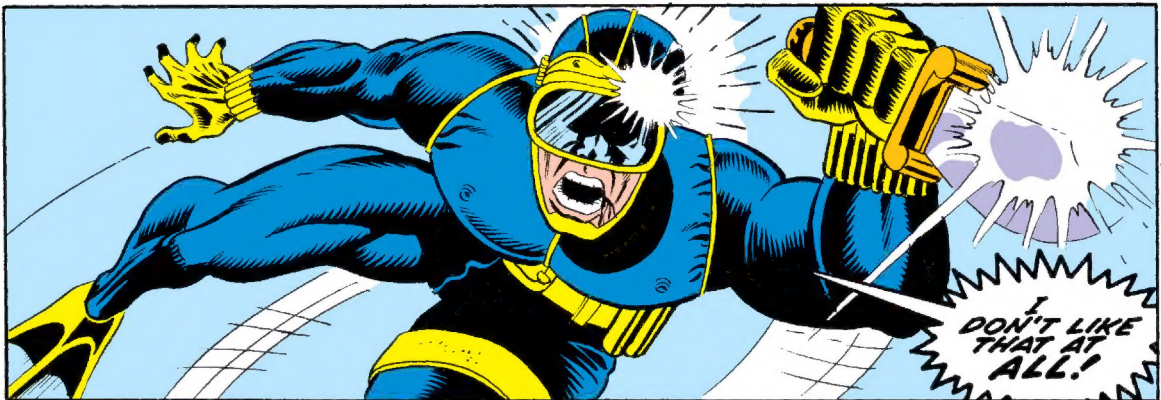
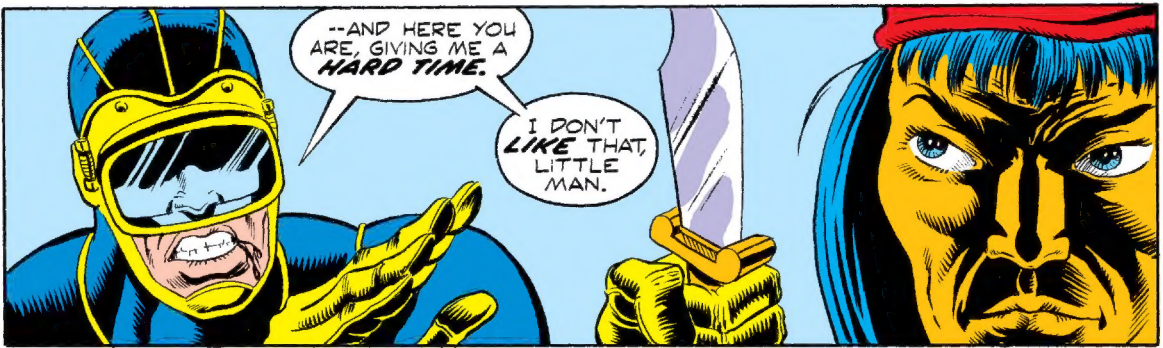
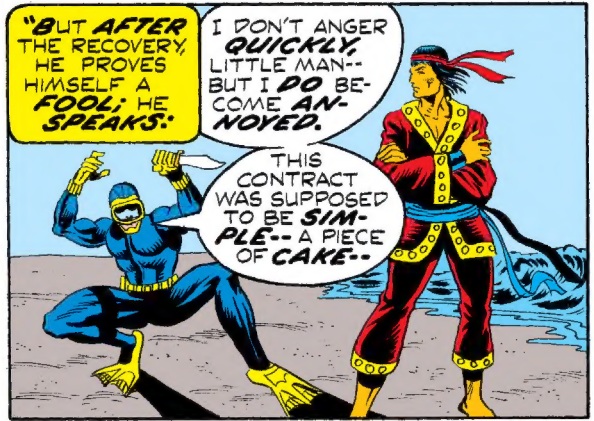
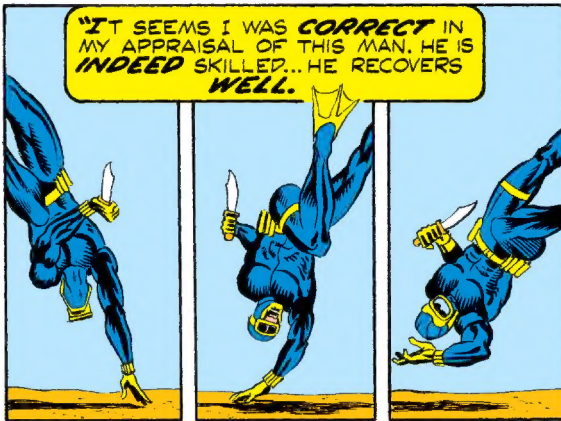
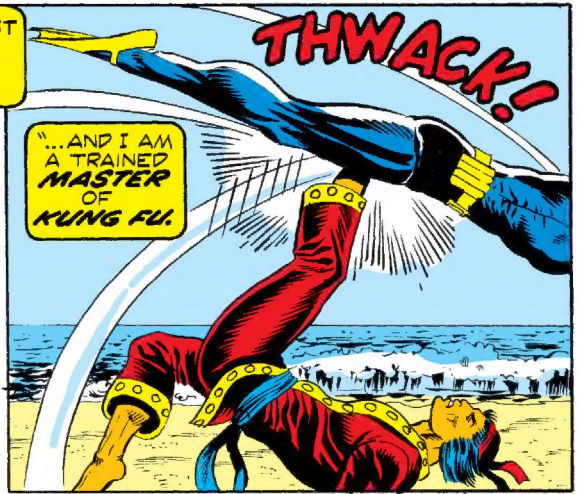
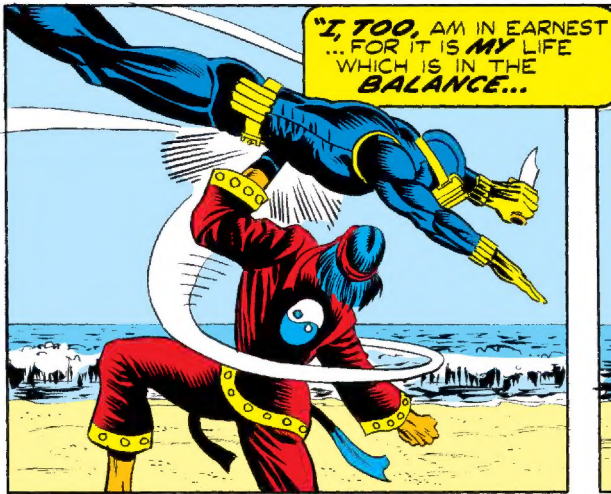


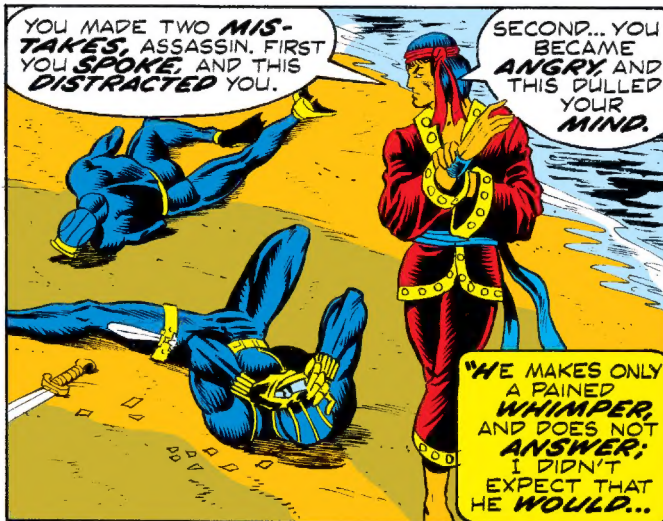
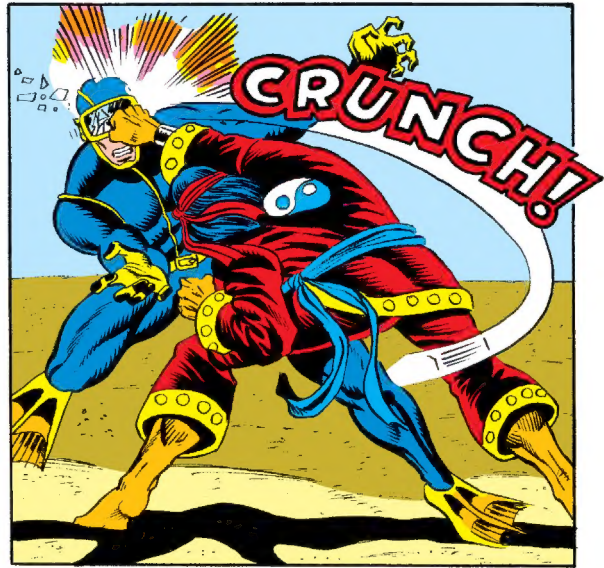
"WITH A GRACE I DID NOT EXPECT, HE STRIKES--*TENTATIVELY*--AND JUDGES MY RESPONSE."

"IN TRUTH, *THIS* MAN IS A MASTER ASSASSIN. HE LEAVES *NOTHING* TO CHANCE..."



"...AND WHEN HE ATTACKS AGAIN, IT IS IN *EARNEST*."







"THERE ARE POINTS ON THE BODY KNOWN TO THE **TRAINED** WHICH CAN REMOVE FEELING WHEN PROPERLY **TOUCHED**."

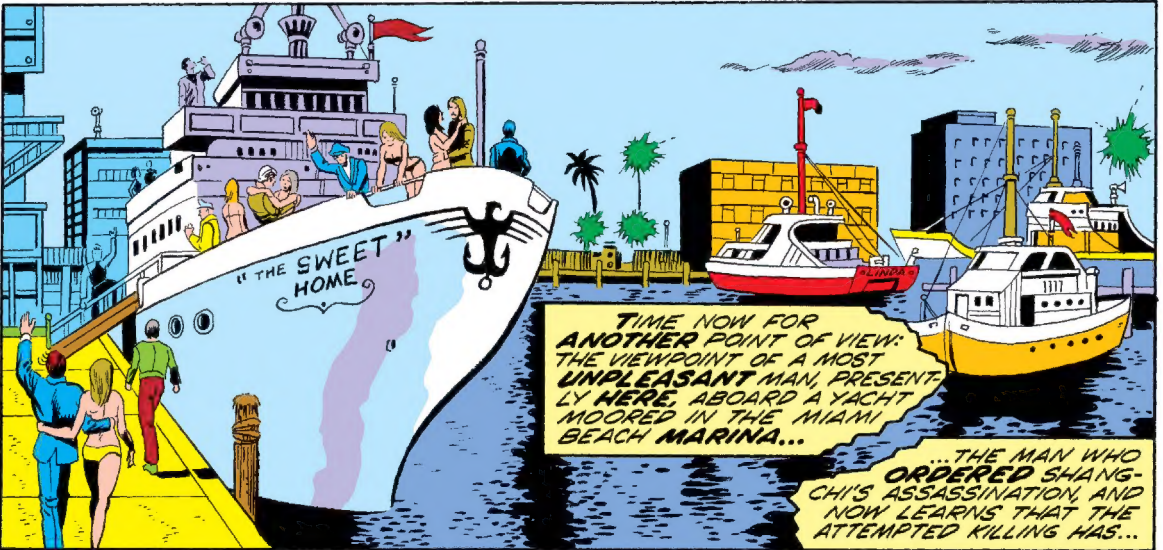


"I HAVE NO **DESIRE** TO INFLICT SUFFERING, AND I WOULD HAVE HELPED THE MAN IN **ANY** CASE, NO DOUBT..."



"...THOUGH **HE** WOULD NEVER HAVE BELIEVED IT..."

"...FOR ASSASSINS ARE A PARTICULARLY **UNTRUSTING** LOT, INDEED."



TIME NOW FOR ANOTHER POINT OF VIEW: THE VIEWPOINT OF A MOST **UNPLEASANT** MAN, PRESENTLY **HERE**, ABOARD A YACHT MOORED IN THE MIAMI BEACH MARINA...

...THE MAN WHO ORDERED SHANG-CHI'S ASSASSINATION, AND NOW LEARNS THAT THE ATTEMPTED KILLING HAS...



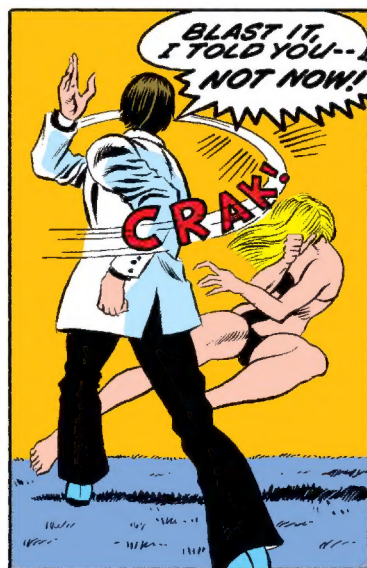
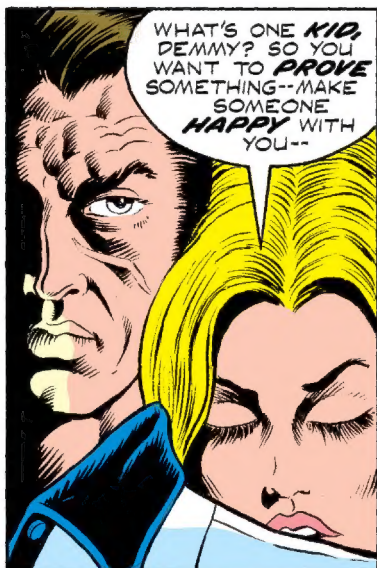
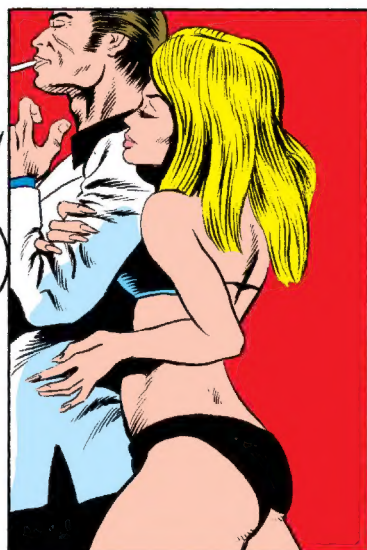
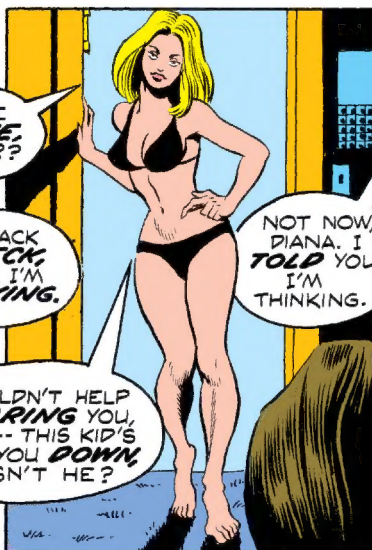
...**FAILED**, MR. MARSTON.

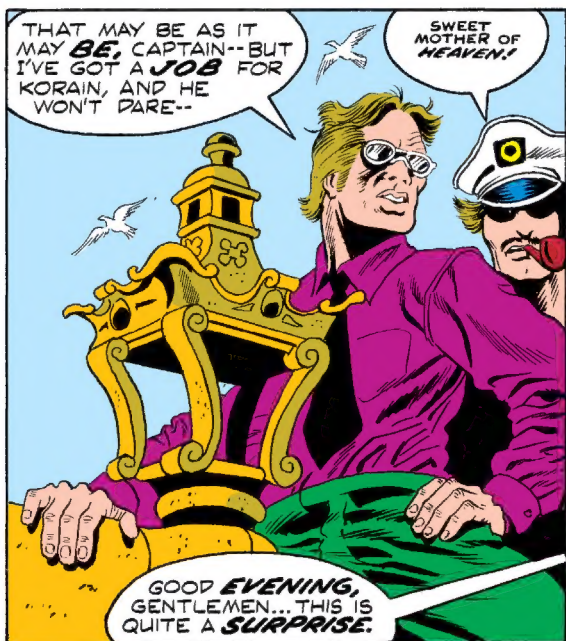
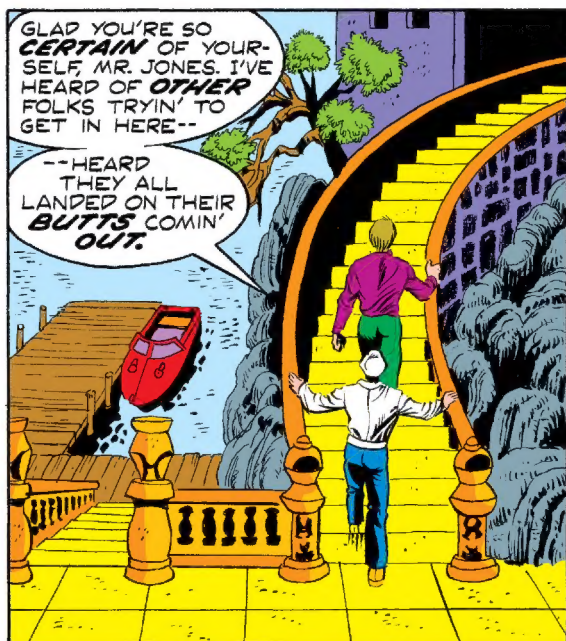
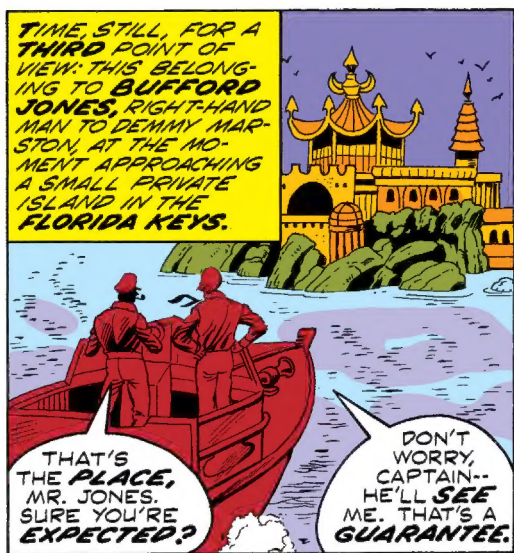
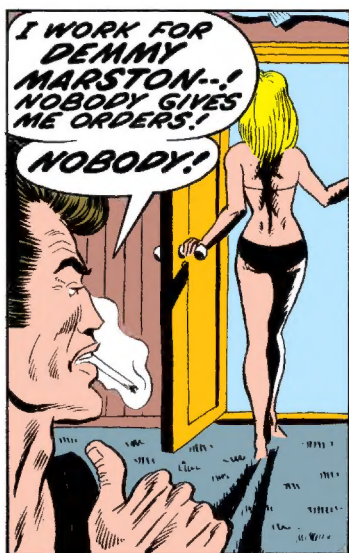
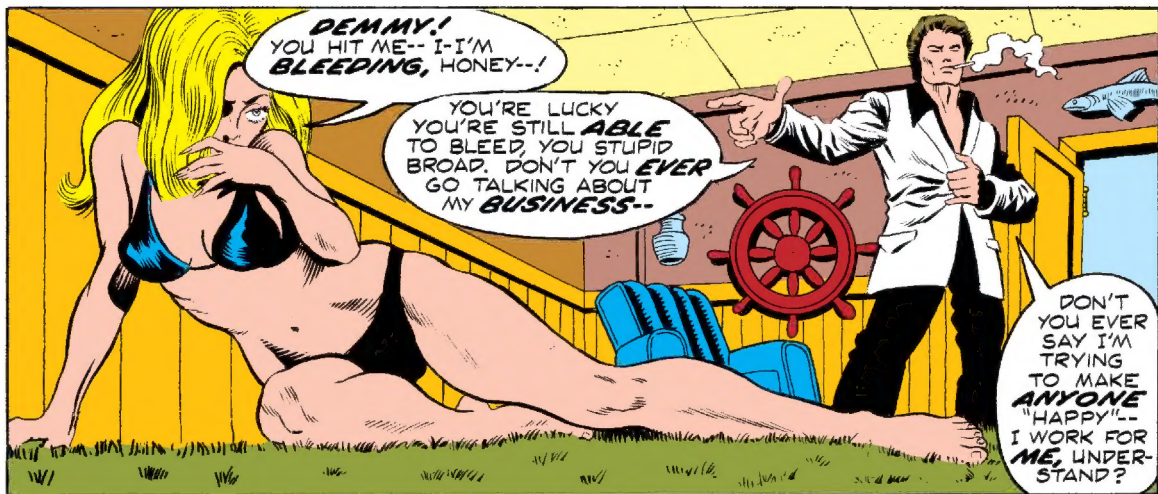
I SEE. I'M SORRY TO **HEAR** THAT, BUFFORD.

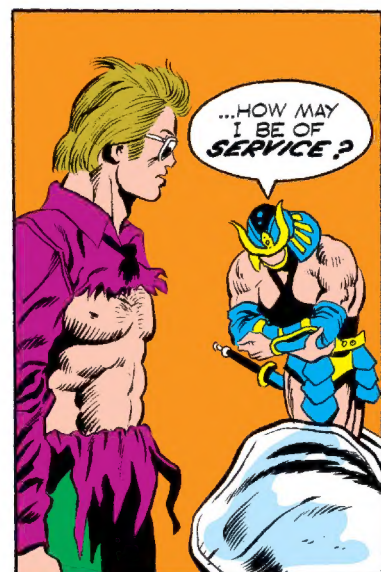
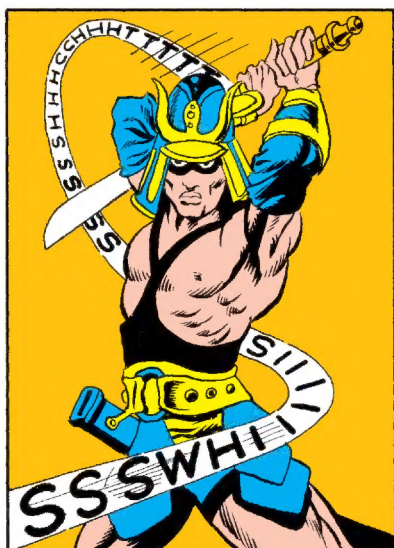


I'M AFRAID IT **COMPLICATES** MATTERS, SOMEWHAT.

WE'LL HAVE TO CONTACT **KORAIN**, AFTER ALL.







DOUG MOENCH / PAUL GULACY & AL MILGROM / D. HUNT, LETTERS / ROY THOMAS
WORDS / PICTURES / G. ROUSSOS, COLORS / SUPERVISION

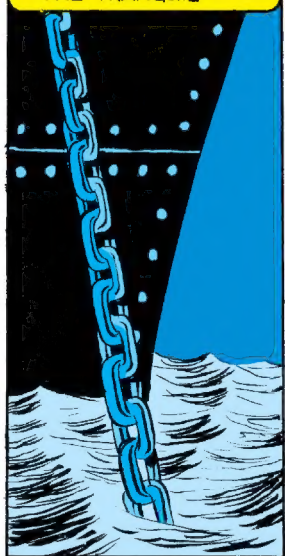
PART TWO: POISON of the SOUL

"IT IS GRAY, AND **ALIEN**...
...A COLD HARD **INTRUDER** TO THE GRACE AND
SERENITY OF THAT WHICH
IT **DISPLACES**...



"...SEEN HERE, IN THE SILENT
DARKNESS DEEPER THAN **NIGHT**...

"...SEEN **HERE**, BELOW
THE TRANQUIL--



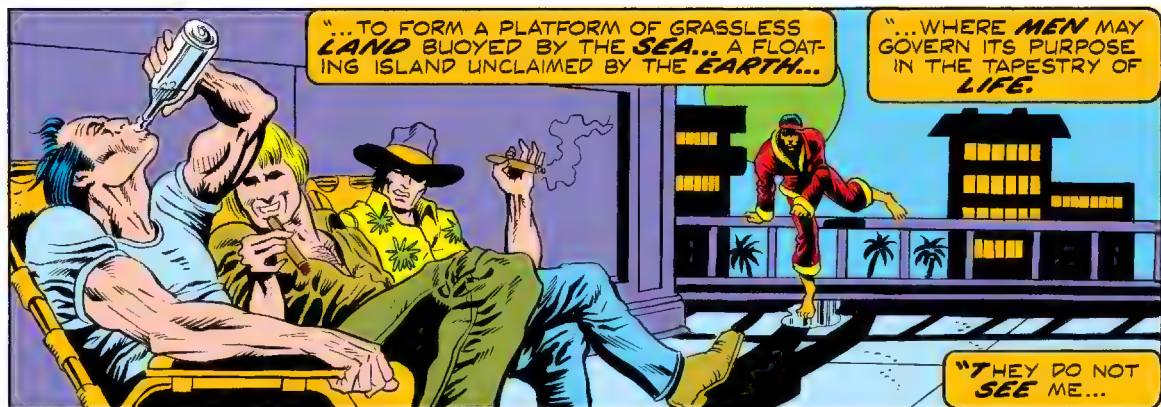
"--WATER.

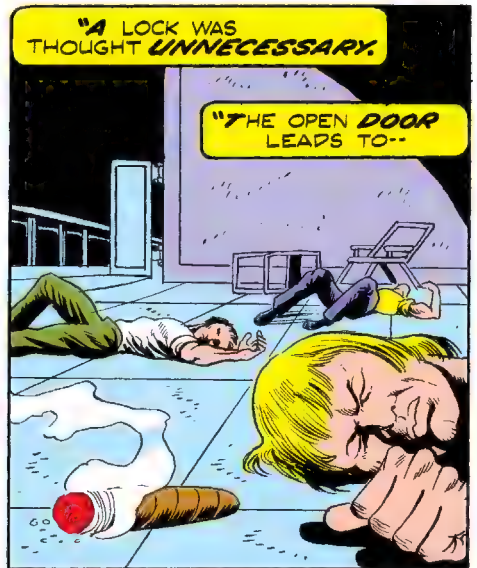
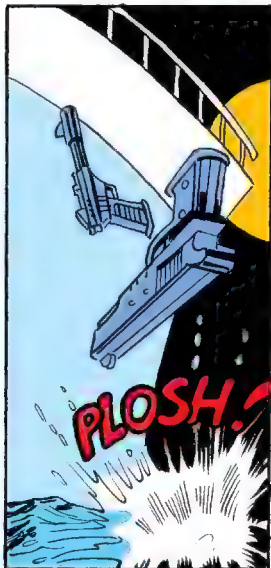
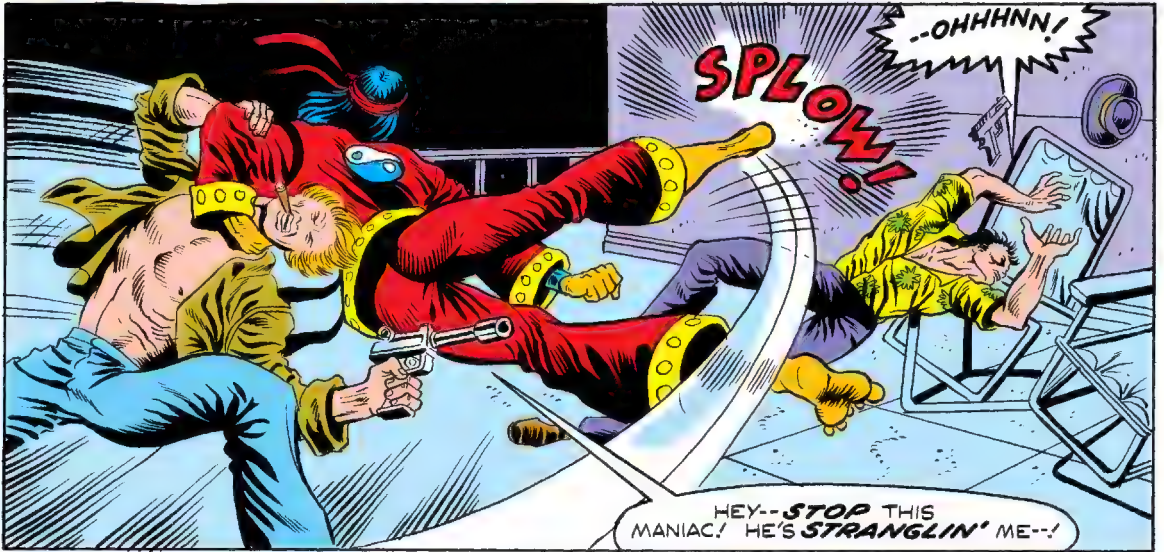
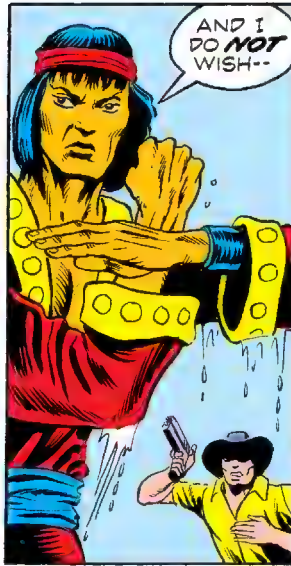
"**ABOVE**
THE
SEA--

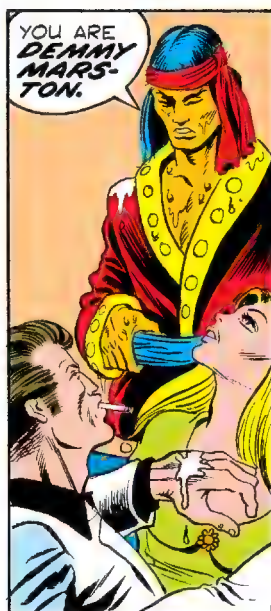
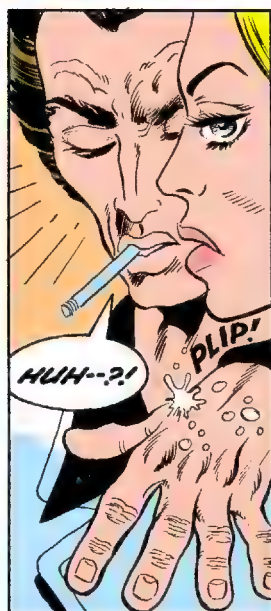
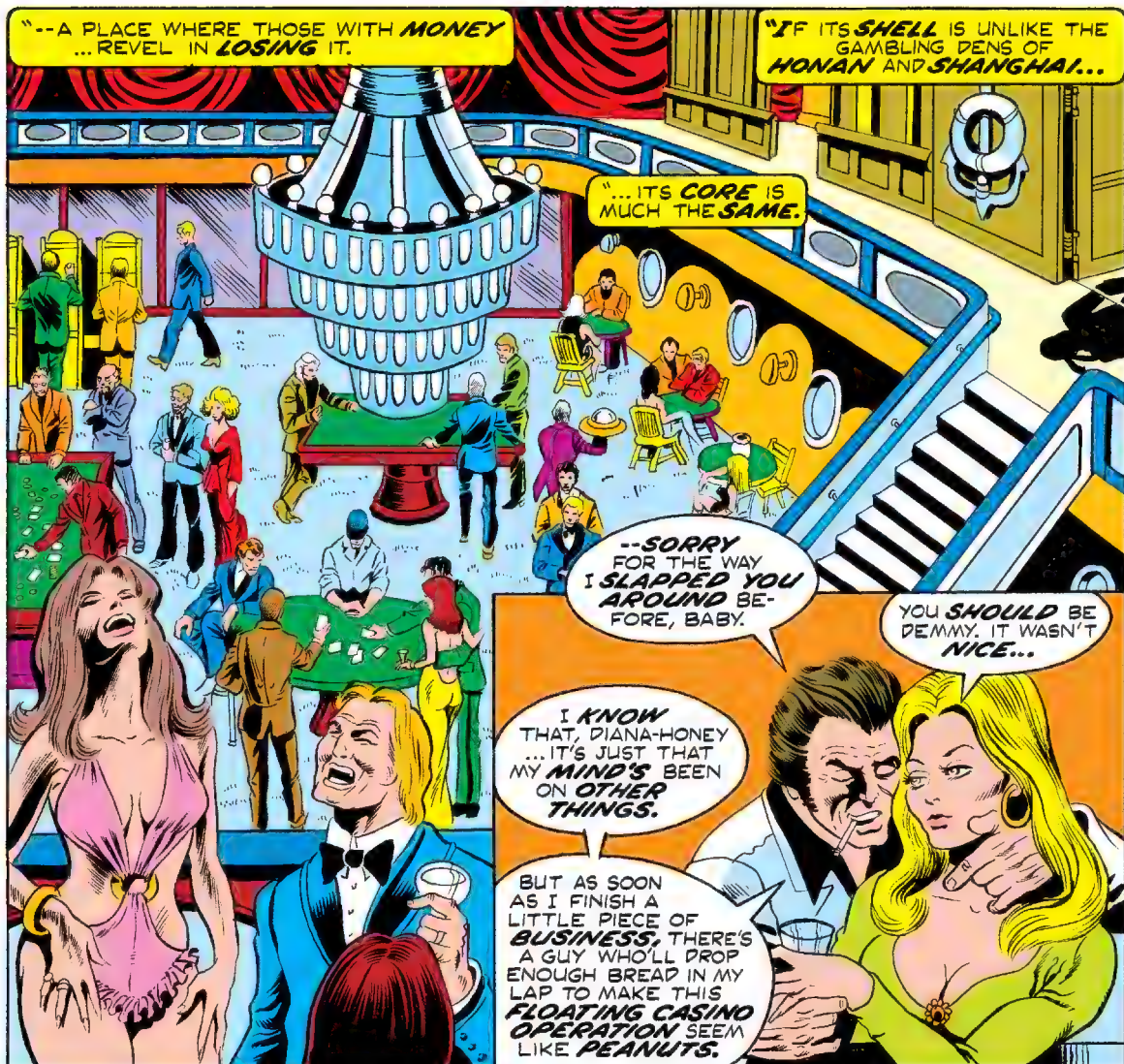


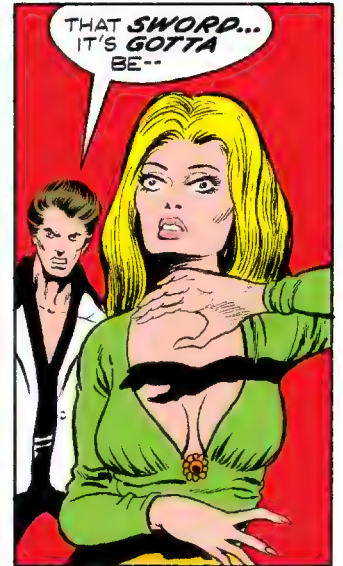
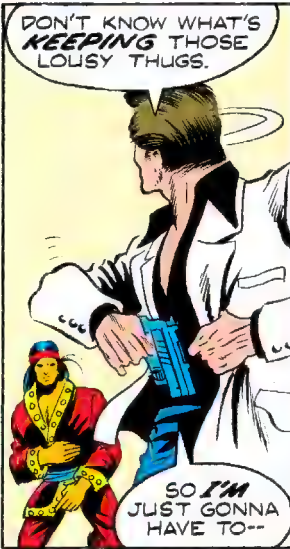
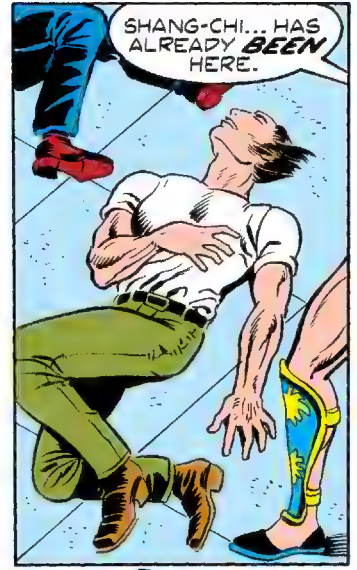
"--IT **RISES**...











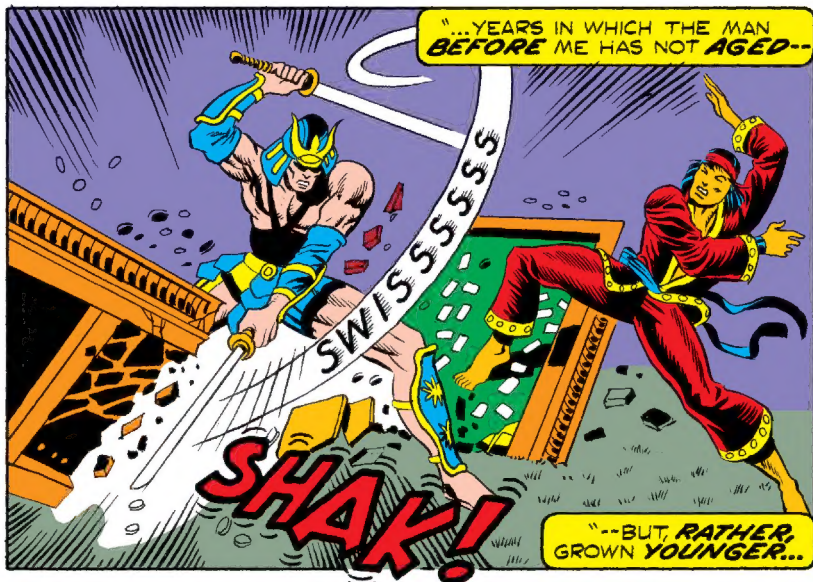


"KORAIN... I REMEMBER THE MAN. HIS UNSURPASSED SKILL WITH THE SAMURAI GAINED HIM A POSITION OF HIGH RESPECT IN MY FATHER'S COURT IN HONAN..."

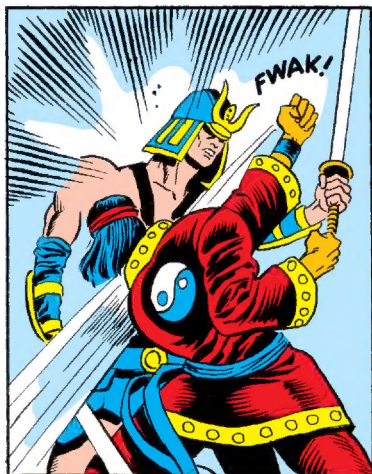
"BUT I WAS A MERE CHILD THEN. MANY YEARS HAVE PASSED..."



"...YEARS IN WHICH THE MAN BEFORE ME HAS NOT AGED--"



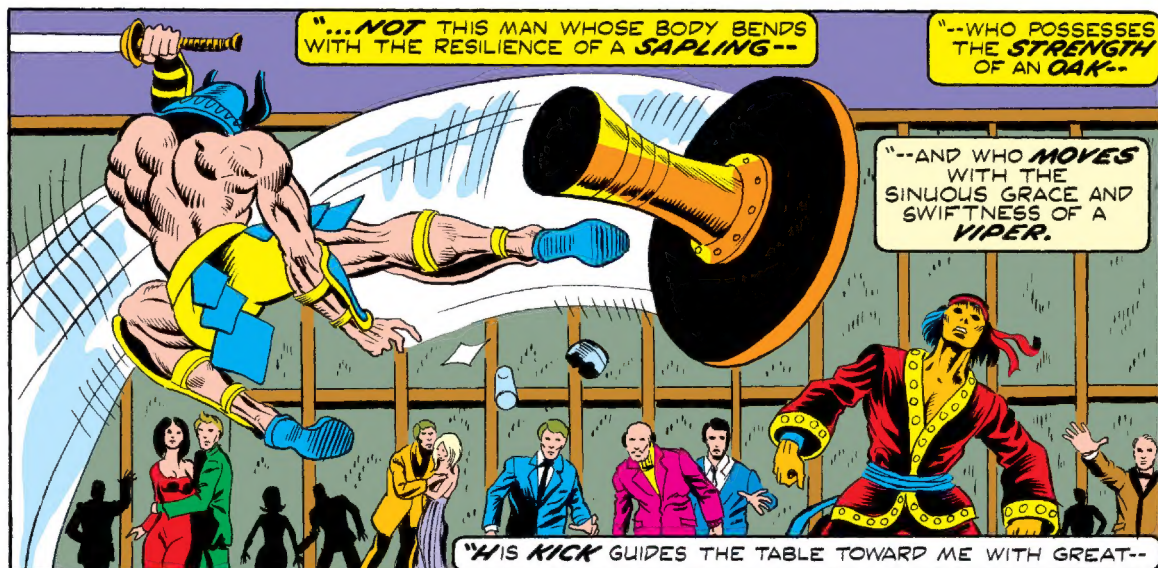
"--BUT, RATHER, GROWN YOUNGER..."



"...FOR HE WAS THEN A MAN WHO WAS ALMOST TOO OLD TO WIELD THE SWORD..."



"...A MAN WHO WOULD SOON RETIRE FROM THE RANKS OF THE SAMURAI..."



"...NOT THIS MAN WHOSE BODY BENDS WITH THE RESILIENCE OF A SAPLING--"

"--WHO POSSESSES THE STRENGTH OF AN OAK--"

"--AND WHO MOVES WITH THE SINOUS GRACE AND SWIFTNES OF A VIPER."

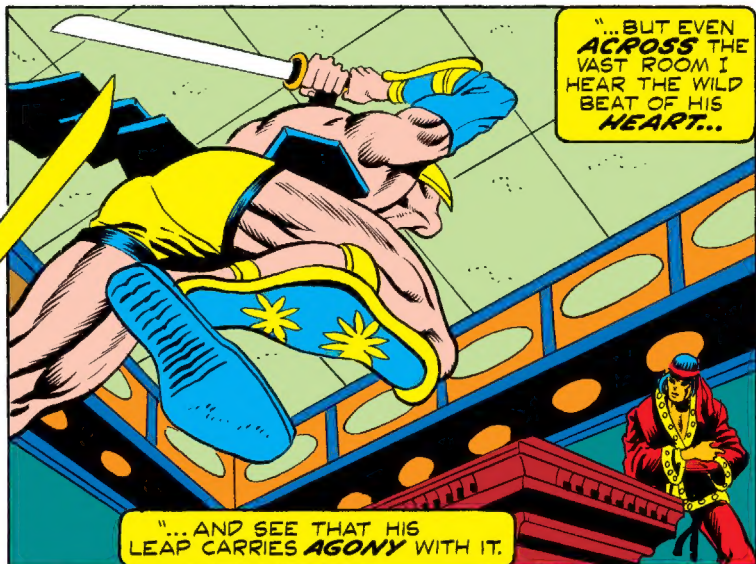
"HIS KICK GUIDES THE TABLE TOWARD ME WITH GREAT--"

"...IN TIME TO SEE THE ELIXIR'S POWER BLOSSOM *WITHIN* HIM.



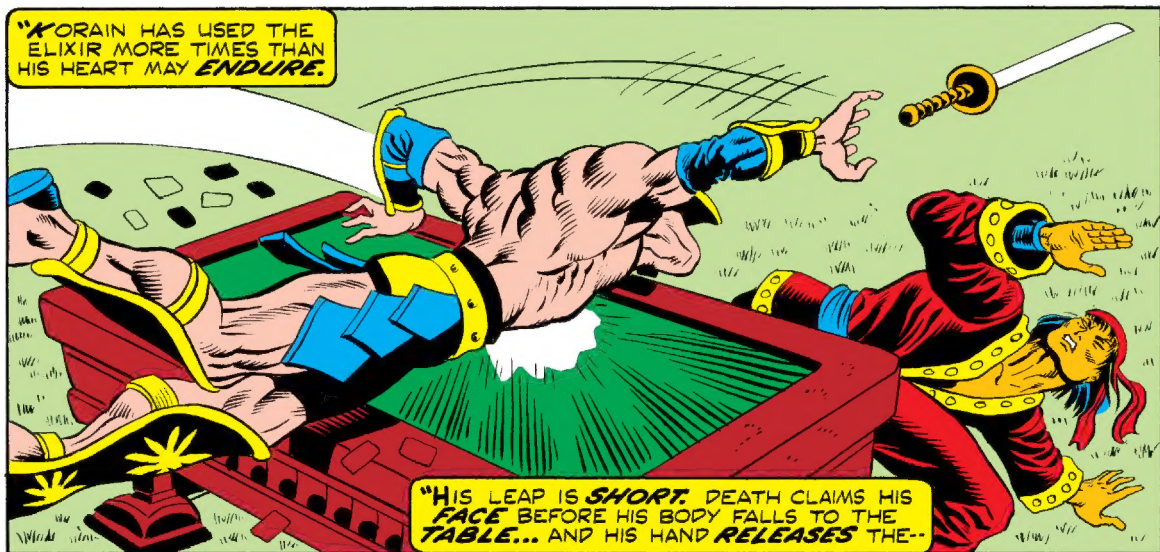
"THE RAPTURE OF RENEWED YOUTH AND STRENGTH FILLS HIM WITH *ECSTASY*...

"...BUT EVEN *ACROSS* THE VAST ROOM I HEAR THE WILD BEAT OF HIS *HEART*...



"...AND SEE THAT HIS LEAP CARRIES *AGONY* WITH IT.

"KORAIN HAS USED THE ELIXIR MORE TIMES THAN HIS HEART MAY *ENDURE*.



"HIS LEAP IS *SHORT*. DEATH CLAIMS HIS *FACE* BEFORE HIS BODY FALLS TO THE *TABLE*... AND HIS HAND RELEASES THE--

"--SWORD.



DIANA--!

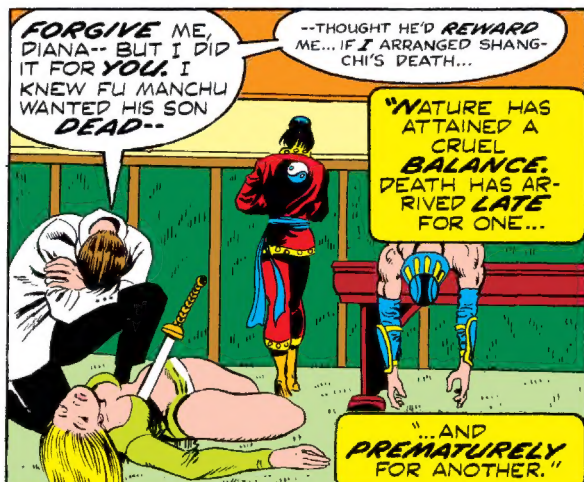


MY GOD-- DIANA--!

FORGIVE ME, DIANA-- BUT I DID IT FOR YOU. I KNEW FU MANCHU WANTED HIS SON *DEAD*--

--THOUGHT HE'D *REWARD* ME... IF I ARRANGED SHANG-CHI'S DEATH...

"NATURE HAS ATTAINED A *CRUEL BALANCE*. DEATH HAS ARRIVED *LATE* FOR ONE...



"...AND *PREMATURELY* FOR ANOTHER."

NEXT ISSUE: **MURDER AT MARINELAND**